

# REPORT

## NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

ON  
FOR THE  
Week ending the 2nd April 1904.

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| Fever in Cuttack town ...                          | ... | ib. |
| A railway accident ...                             | ... | ib. |
| A cure for leprosy ...                             | ... | ib. |
| Dacoity in Cuttack town ...                        | ... | ib. |
| The proposed Puri pilgrim tax ...                  | ... | ib. |
| Religious teaching in the schools in the Orissa    | ... | ib. |
| Tributary States ...                               | ... | ib. |



## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

| No.                      | Names of Newspapers.                           | Places of publication. | Reported number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. | REMARKS. |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>BENGALI.</b>          |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Monthly.</i>          |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                        | "Dharma-o-Karma" ...                           | Calcutta ...           | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| 2                        | "Prachar" ...                                  | Bhowanipore, Calcutta  | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| <i>Fortnightly.</i>      |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                        | "Sign Board" ...                               | Calcutta ...           | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>           |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                        | "Anusandhan" ...                               | Calcutta ...           | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| 2                        | "Bangabhumi" ...                               | Ditto ...              | 2,500                           | 29th March 1904.                                    |          |
| 3                        | "Bangavasi" ...                                | Ditto ...              | 12,000                          | 26th ditto.                                         |          |
| 4                        | "Basumati" ...                                 | Ditto ...              | 17,000                          | 19th and 26th March 1904.                           |          |
| 5                        | "Hitavadi" ...                                 | Ditto ...              | 15,000                          | 25th March 1904.                                    |          |
| 6                        | "Mahima" ...                                   | Ditto ...              | .....                           | 25th ditto.                                         |          |
| 7                        | "Mihir-o-Sudhakar" ...                         | Ditto ...              | 1,000                           | 18th and 25th March 1904.                           |          |
| 8                        | "Mistabhasi" ...                               | Ditto ...              | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| 9                        | "Nava Yug" ...                                 | Ditto ...              | 500                             | 26th March 1904.                                    |          |
| 10                       | "Pratijna" ...                                 | Ditto ...              | .....                           | 23rd ditto.                                         |          |
| 11                       | "Prativasi" ...                                | Ditto ...              | 2,500                           | .....                                               |          |
| 12                       | "Rangalaya" ...                                | Ditto ...              | 1,500                           | .....                                               |          |
| 13                       | "Sahas Kesari" ...                             | Ditto ...              | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| 14                       | "Samay" ...                                    | Ditto ...              | 600                             | 18th and 25th March 1904.                           |          |
| 15                       | "Sanjivani" ...                                | Ditto ...              | 3,000                           | 24th March 1904.                                    |          |
| 16                       | "Soltan" ...                                   | Ditto ...              | .....                           | 25th ditto.                                         |          |
| 17                       | "Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika." | Ditto ...              | 1,000                           | 23rd ditto.                                         |          |
| <i>Daily.</i>            |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                        | "Daily Hitavadi" ...                           | Calcutta ...           | .....                           | 25th to 30th March 1904.                            |          |
| 2                        | "Dainik Chandrika" ...                         | Ditto ...              | 200                             | .....                                               |          |
| 3                        | "Samvad Prabhakar" ...                         | Ditto ...              | 1,200                           | .....                                               |          |
| 4                        | "Samvad Purnachandrodaya"                      | Ditto ...              | 400                             | 25th, 30th, 31st March 1904.                        |          |
| <b>HINDI.</b>            |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>           |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                        | "Bharat Mitra" ...                             | Calcutta ...           | 3,200                           | .....                                               |          |
| 2                        | "Hindi Bangavasi" ...                          | Ditto ...              | 5,000                           | .....                                               |          |
| 3                        | "Hitavarta" ...                                | Ditto ...              | .....                           | 27th March 1904.                                    |          |
| <b>PERSIAN.</b>          |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>           |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                        | "Roznama-i-M u k a d d a s-Hablul Mateen."     | Calcutta ...           | 1,000                           | .....                                               |          |
| <b>BENGALI.</b>          |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>           |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <b>BURDWAN DIVISION.</b> |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                        | "Bangabandhu" ...                              | Chandernagore ...      | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| 2                        | "Bankura Darpan" ...                           | Bankura ...            | 900                             | .....                                               |          |
| 3                        | "Burdwan Sanjivani" ...                        | Burdwan ...            | 300                             | .....                                               |          |
| 4                        | "Chinsura Vartavaha" ...                       | Chinsura ...           | 500                             | .....                                               |          |
| 5                        | "Education Gazette" ...                        | Ditto ...              | 1,300                           | 25th March 1904.                                    |          |
| 6                        | "Howrah Hitaishi" ...                          | Howrah ...             | .....                           | 26th ditto.                                         |          |
| 7                        | "Medini Bandhav" ...                           | Midnapore ...          | About 400                       | 23rd ditto.                                         |          |
| 8                        | "Nihar" ...                                    | Contai ...             | 150                             | 29th ditto.                                         |          |
| 9                        | "Pallivasi" ...                                | Kalna ...              | 600                             | 23rd ditto.                                         |          |
| 10                       | "Prajaranjan" ...                              | Tamluk ...             | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| 11                       | "Ratnakar" ...                                 | Asansol ...            | .....                           | 26th March 1904.                                    |          |
| <b>BENGALI.</b>          |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Monthly.</i>          |                                                |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                        | "Sevika" ...                                   | Diamond Harbour ...    | .....                           | .....                                               |          |



## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS—concluded.

| No.                         | Names of Newspapers.        | Places of publication. | Reported number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. | REMARKS. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>BENGALI.</b>             |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <b>PRESIDENCY DIVISION</b>  |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>—concl'd.</i>            |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Hitasadhak" ...            | Alipore ...            | .....                           | 7th and 18th March 1904.                            |          |
| 2                           | "Jasohar" ...               | Jessore ...            | .....                           | 16th March 1904.                                    |          |
| 3                           | "Khulna Hitaishi" ...       | Khulna ...             | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| 4                           | "Murshidabad Hitaishi" ...  | Khagra ...             | 400                             | 23rd March 1904.                                    |          |
| 5                           | "Pratihar" ...              | Berhampore ...         | 600                             | .....                                               |          |
| 6                           | "Vaidik" ...                | Khulna ...             | .....                           | 19th March 1904.                                    |          |
| <b>URIYA.</b>               |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <b>ORISSA DIVISION.</b>     |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Garjatbasini" ...          | Talcher ...            | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| 2                           | "Samvad Vahika" ...         | Balasore ...           | 500                             | 17th March 1904.                                    |          |
| 3                           | "Uriya and Navasamvad" ...  | Ditto ...              | 400                             | 23rd ditto.                                         |          |
| 4                           | "Utkal dipika" ...          | Cuttack ...            | 500                             | 19th ditto.                                         |          |
| <b>HINDI.</b>               |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Monthly.</i>             |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Lakshmi Upadesh Lahri" ... | Aurangabad, Gaya ...   | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| <i>Fortnightly.</i>         |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Bihar Bandhu" ...          | Bankipore ...          | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| 2                           | "Jain Gajet" ...            | Arrah ...              | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| <b>URDU.</b>                |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Al Punch" ...              | Bankipore ...          | .....                           | 27th March 1904.                                    |          |
| 2                           | "Bihar Punch" ...           | Gaya ...               | .....                           | .....                                               |          |
| <b>BENGALI.</b>             |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Manbhum" ...               | Purnia ...             | 500                             | .....                                               |          |
| <b>HINDI.</b>               |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Arya Varta" ...            | Ranchi ...             | 550                             | 29th March 1904.                                    |          |
| <b>BENGALI.</b>             |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Hindu Ranjika" ...         | Boalia ...             | 300                             | 16th March 1904.                                    |          |
| 2                           | "Rangpur Dik Prakash" ...   | Rangpur ...            | 7,480                           | 24th ditto.                                         |          |
| <b>BENGALI.</b>             |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Fortnightly.</i>         |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Faridpur Hitaishini" ...   | Faridpur ...           | About 300                       | .....                                               |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Barisal Hitaishi" ...      | Barisal ...            | 400                             | 19th March 1904.                                    |          |
| 2                           | "Bikash" ...                | Ditto ...              | 1,000                           | .....                                               |          |
| 3                           | "Charu Mihir" ...           | Mymensingh ...         | 800                             | 22nd March 1904.                                    |          |
| 4                           | "Dacca Prakash" ...         | Dacca ...              | 375                             | 27th ditto.                                         |          |
| 5                           | "Kasipur Nivasi" ...        | Barisal ...            | 500                             | .....                                               |          |
| <b>ENGLISH AND BENGALI.</b> |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Dacca Gazette" ...         | Dacca ...              | 600                             | 28th March 1904.                                    |          |
| <b>BENGALI.</b>             |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Tri-monthly.</i>         |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Suhrid" ...                | Noakhali ...           | 1,000                           | 14th and 23rd March 1904.                           |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Jyoti" ...                 | Chittagong ...         | 1,000                           | 24th March 1904.                                    |          |
| 2                           | "Sansodhini" ...            | Ditto ...              | 380                             | .....                                               |          |
| 3                           | "Tripura Hitaishi" ...      | Comilla ...            | 250 to 300                      | 22nd and 29th March 1904.                           |          |
| <b>ENGLISH AND BENGALI.</b> |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Weekly.</i>              |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Pratinidhi" ...            | Comilla ...            | 400 to 500                      | .....                                               |          |
| <b>BENGALI.</b>             |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| <i>Fortnightly.</i>         |                             |                        |                                 |                                                     |          |
| 1                           | "Paridarsak" ...            | Sylhet ...             | 500                             | .....                                               |          |
| 2                           | "Silchar" ...               | Silchar ...            | .....                           | .....                                               |          |



## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 25th March writes as follows:—

HITAVADI,  
March 25th, 1904.

The Tibet Expedition. We are constrained to say that whether it be due to a desire to seek a commercial pretext or to a morbid Russo-phobia, the Tibet Expedition has been an imprudent and inequitable move on the part of Lord Curzon. The Indian people will not only gain nothing, but will be great losers by it. The famine-stricken raiyats will at present have to bear the cost of conducting the Expedition and afterwards the charge of maintaining peace when peace is made. Will Parliament remain indifferent to such an act of injustice? We hope that with the downfall of the present Ministry there will be an end of Lord Curzon's Viceroyalty and with it an end of the Tibet Expedition. We are awaiting the advent of that auspicious day.

2. The *Soltan* [Calcutta], a new paper, in its issue of the 25th March says that Russia is the arch-enemy of all Musalmans. She is also the enemy of Great Britain. Her fall is therefore prayed for by all Musalmans. Her cup of iniquity is full, and it will not be long before she receives a fatal crush.

SOLTAN,  
March 25th, 1904.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

3. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 18th March publishes a contradiction by Mr. Jahiruddin Ahmed, Honorary Magistrate, Mymensingh, of the allegations of a correspondent published in its issue of the 8th January (Report on Native Papers of the 16th January, paragraph 4) against Babu Girindra Chandra Mukerji, District Superintendent of Police, Mymensingh. Mr. Ahmed says that Girindra Babu is an excellent officer and that the allegations are without any foundation.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
March 18th, 1904.

4. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 18th March writes as follows:—  
In our last issue we published the substance of the news which had been communicated to the *Bengalee* newspaper by its Comilla correspondent about the connection of Mr. Corbett, the District Superintendent of Police, Comilla, with an incident which occurred on the occasion of the last *Doljatra* festival. But we see that the news had no foundation in fact. The Secretary to the Government of Bengal has written to newspapers to the effect that Mr. Corbett was in his own residence at the time of the occurrence. The Secretary's words have satisfied us, and we regret that we published Mr. Corbett's name in connection with the incident. We were, however, misled by the *Bengalee* newspaper.

SAMAY,  
March 18th, 1904.

5. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 19th March writes that it did not disclose the name of the police officer in the Tippera district who committed assault upon the drummers in a gentleman's house; nor did the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* disclose his name. Yet Mr. Stephenson, the Private Secretary to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, wrote a letter to the Editor of the *Patrika* stating that the complaint was entirely incorrect as regards Mr. Corbett. Mr. Stephenson's letter makes it clear that some high police officer was guilty of the alleged offence, and it is to be hoped that His Honour's attention will be drawn to the matter.

BASUMATI,  
March 19th, 1904.

6. A correspondent of the *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 22nd March writes that thefts are very frequent in the Bhagabatipur (Kendua) village in the Mymensingh district. Scarcely a night passes without a theft by housebreaking. The inhabitants do not give information of thefts to the thana for fear of police oppression. The chaukidars and dafadars do not go out on their rounds at night. The attention of the Subdivisional Officer of Netrakona is drawn to this state of things.

CHARU MIHIR,  
March 22nd, 1904.



CHARU MIHIR,  
March 22nd, 1904.

7. A correspondent writes in the *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 22nd

A case of dacoity in the Mymensingh district.

March that great alarm has been caused by the terrible dacoity at the Narandia-Daulatpur village, in the Kalihati thana of the Mymensingh district. The police have not yet been able to trace the dacoits. There are gangs of *budmashes* at different places in this district, and many persons pass for gentlemen who are really receivers of stolen property. An able detective officer should be deputed for the apprehension of the culprits.

After the last census many lower class people have given up their former occupations as being derogatory to them. They have now taken to dacoity as a means of livelihood and have become *lathials*. Gambling with three cards also prevails in these places.

The people of this quarter dare not speak a word against these *budmashes*. Will there be no end of this state of anarchy in the district?

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
March 25th, 1904.

8. A correspondent of the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 25th March

*Budmashes* in a thana in the Mymensingh district.

says that when Munshi Eradat Khan was Sub-Inspector of the Gafargaon thana in the Mymensingh district, the local *budmashes* were greatly held in check. But as soon as he was transferred from the thana the latter raised their heads, and for some time became the terror of the local people. Afterwards Junior Sub-Inspector Munshi Syed Mahamed was posted to the thana. This worthy officer has to a great extent checked the high-handedness of the *budmashes* and is expected to bring them round completely. None but Musalman police officers can effectually deal with Musalman *budmashes*.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
March 27th, 1904.

9. Correspondents writing in the *Dacca Prakash* [Dacca] of the 27th March

Prevalence of theft in certain villages in East Bengal.

complain of the prevalence of theft in Rajabari-Bikrampur in the Dacca district, in Rudrakar in the Palang thana of the Faridpur district, and in Kayera in the Tangail subdivision of the Mymensingh district.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-  
ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
March 19th, 1904.

10. The *Vaidik* [Khulna] of the 19th March has received many complaints

The first Munsif of Magura in the Jessore district.

against Babu Charu Chandra Mitra, first Munsif of Magura in the Jessore district. According to the special correspondent of the paper, Charu Babu has inaugurated quite a reign of terror in Magura.

The Munsif quarrelled with Babu Atulananda Chakravarti regarding a rented house, and some facts about this quarrel were published in the local paper, the *Kalyani*. The Munsif Babu is now said to be constantly on the lookout for opportunities to harm Atulananda Babu. He has already made some complaints against Babu Devendra Nath Chakravarti, a brother-in-law of Atulananda Babu, and the *Nazir* of the Munsif's Court, which are being enquired into by the District Judge.

BARISAL HITAIISHI,  
March 19th, 1904.

11. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 19th March writes that Mr.

The case of two muharrirs at Barisal.

Temple, the District Judge of Barisal, has suspended two of his muharrirs for their inability to pay off their debts. How can these poor men be expected to clear their debts if they are to remain in a state of suspension?

BARISAL HITAIISHI,  
March 19th, 1904.

12. The same paper writes that Mr. Wetherell, a European Honorary

A European fined at Barisal.

Magistrate of Barisal, beat his native cook for the reason that the cook insisted upon leave being granted him. The man brought a criminal case against his master, who at first did not appear before the District Magistrate. But the Magistrate compelled the accused to appear before him in person. His defence was that he had given the cook a push for his disobedience and the man fell on his face against the wall, and this caused bleeding from his nose. The Magistrate fined him Rs. 5.

In these days an impartial judicial officer like Mr. Streatfeild is seldom met with among the Anglo-Indians. He is a glory to the English nation. What the result would have been if a different man had tried the case, may easily be imagined. Now the question is whether a man who beats his own cook for a trivial offence deserves to sit in judgment as a Magistrate over other people.



13. It is rumoured, says the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 25th March, that a certain Deputy Magistrate of Purulia, in the Manbhum district, is trying to gain a notoriety for himself by disallowing witnesses to be cross-examined before the framing of the charge, unless such witnesses be police officers. It is hoped that the authorities will bring home to the worthy *hakim* the illegality of this practice on his part.

HITAVADI,  
March 25th, 1904.

14. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 27th March draws the attention of Government to a case of harassment caused to Babu Sarat Chandra Chakrabarti, an inhabitant of village Jhorhati in the Sankrail thana of the Howrah district. This gentleman is said to have paid the whole of the drainage canal charges for which he was liable, except a portion amounting to Rs. 43-3 for the due payment of which one Sukhamay Das, the purchaser of the land on account of which the above sum fell due, was responsible. Accordingly, a notice was sent to Sukhamay Das for the payment of the amount, and he deposited the money in the Howrah Collectorate on January 7th, 1904. But although the dues had been paid in full, Sarat Chandra Chakrabarti was unexpectedly arrested by a Court bailiff on the 14th March last and brought to Howrah. He was put in *hajat* and was subsequently ordered to be sent to the Hooghly Jail, as the evidence of payment of the dues could not be promptly produced. In this extremity the friends of Sarat Chandra paid the money and saved him from being sent to jail.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,  
March 27th, 1904.

Now the question is, who is to blame for this unnecessary harassment? Will Government order an enquiry?

(a)—Education.

15. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says that there was a mistake in the third question of the second day's paper set at the last final examination for Sanskrit titles in *Kavya*, and there were several mistakes in the first question in the second paper set at the first Sanskrit examination in the same subject. The attention of the Principal of the Sanskrit College having been drawn to the first of the mistakes referred to, he refused to set it right.

HITAVADI,  
March 25th, 1904.

Both at the title and the other examinations, Professors of the Sanskrit College and others who serve as guards not only themselves tell their pupils the answers to the questions but allow the examinees to copy from each other's papers. At the recent first examination in *Kavya*, the son of Pandit Pramatha Nath Tarkabhusan, Professor of the Sanskrit College, appeared as an examinee, and on his failure to answer the questions set, a certain guard told him the answers. Considering these irregularities, it would be better to transfer the charge of conducting the first and second examinations in Sanskrit to the authorities of the Calcutta University than to keep it in the hands of the Principal of the Sanskrit College.

16. The *Mahima* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says that it has been proposed by the authorities that in future posts in Government service should be filled by nomination, and not by competitive examination open to all educated natives. Will Lord Curzon be called an educational reformer after this? He should rather be named the destroyer of high education.

MAHIMA,  
March 25th, 1904.

17. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 26th March writes:—

The Government Resolution on Education in India.

The rigorous rules which Government proposes to enforce with regard to the recognition of, and the giving of grants-in-aid to, schools, make it extremely doubtful whether intermediate education will at all improve in this country under their operation. India is a very poor country, and it is therefore not in a position to manage schools without help from Government. But under the proposed conditions it will be almost impossible for most schools to obtain Government grants-in-aid. It can never be safe in all cases to depend upon the reports of inspecting officers in order to ascertain the merits or demerits of schools, the character and qualifications of teachers, and whether

BANGAVASI,  
March 26th, 1904.



or no the conditions of Government grant-in-aid are being observed. The first difficulty that will present itself will be in the direction of securing a Government grant. Moreover, schools not in receipt of such grants will be subjected to the same restrictions as schools receiving them. If the unaided schools refuse to come under these restrictions they will forfeit their recognition by the Department. It is highly objectionable on the part of Government to exercise such undue interference over schools that do not receive a farthing of the public money. Another important fact ought not to be lost sight of: the same rules for grant-in-aid cannot be applicable to all parts of the country, as different conditions obtain in different localities. The result of the enforcement of a uniform system of grant-in-aid rules cannot but be disastrous to the cause of that intermediate education towards the improvement of which the efforts of Government are proposed to be directed. It is strange that Government should seem to be so unmindful of these matters.

Then comes the question of the examination of intermediate schools. Government has not yet indicated how this examination is to be conducted, although it says that the examination, to be of any use, must be thorough and efficient. We hope Government will make such arrangements as are calculated to further the cause of intermediate education.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
March 29th, 1904.

18. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 29th March publishes a cartoon in which a dead body, meant for high education in India, is represented as being carried by a crowd of Indian students of all castes and creeds. The letter-press is a poem in which the students are described as crying "*haribol, haribol*" over the dead body and referring to Lord Curzon as the cause of the death of high education in India.

A cartoon.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

SUHRID,  
March 14th, 1904.

19. The *Suhrid* [Noakhali] of the 14th March complains that the tax-collector of the Noakhali Municipality illegally realised Rs. 5-4 as tax and extra charges from one Isan Chandra Das, a shop-keeper. The attention of the District Magistrate and the Divisional Commissioner is drawn to the matter.

Levy of illegal charges in the Noakhali Municipality.

VAIDIK,  
March 19th, 1904.

20. The *Vaidik* [Khulna] of the 19th March says that though charitable dispensaries are established for the purpose of rendering medical aid only to the poor, they are, as a matter of fact, also resorted to by well-to-do people. The result of this is that many dispensaries run short of their stock of medicines before the year is out and, then, even the poor have to go without proper medicines. This ought to be checked by the authorities of such dispensaries.

Use of charitable dispensaries by well-to-do people.

SUHRID,  
March 23rd, 1904.

21. The *Suhrid* [Noakhali] of the 23rd March writes that there is a great uproar in the Noakhali town at the rumour that the municipal tax will be increased. It is said that everything in this connexion is being done in secret. This is highly objectionable. A general raising of the tax would be unjust. The authorities should increase the tax of only those who have been underassessed.

The proposed increase of municipal tax at Noakhali.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-  
ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
March 23rd, 1904.

22. The authorities should enquire, says the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March, whether or no the owners of the riparian mills near Calcutta are actually obeying the Government orders regarding septic tank latrines in such mills. As a matter of fact, they have cancelled their agreements with the Municipalities in their neighbourhood for the service of *mehters*. How is then the night-soil in the mills being removed now?

Septic tanks in mills near Calcutta.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
March 27th, 1904.

23. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March says that dead rats are now found every day lying at the junction of Chitpur Road and Canning Street in Calcutta. On the 25th instant one dead rat was found lying near the hackney carriage stand at the Fauzdari Balakhana. On the following

Dead rats in the Calcutta streets.



day the carcass was found trampled upon and mutilated by passengers and another lying by its side. Such is the manner in which the municipal servants discharge their duties in this plague season.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

24. The *Suhrid* [Noakhali] of the 14th March says that the Luxam public have benefited by the opening of the railway to Noakhali. But the hotel at Luxam, though it has accommodation for women, has no latrine arrangements. This should be remedied.

SUHRID,  
March 14th, 1904.

(h)—*General.*

25. "Nityananda Deb Sarma" writes in the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 19th March:—

BASUMATI,  
March 19th, 1904.

Uselessness of native agitation.

The policy of "divide and rule" is an essential principle in politics. You want to frustrate this policy of Lord Curzon by your arguments and logic and your cries. It is sheer folly. Therefore, be quiet, my boys. Be sure that cries and entreaties can never make the rulers deviate from their path of duty. Whatever they desire to do, they will do, without at all minding your protests which only serve to increase their *aid*. I have always observed that the greater the agitation and the protest, the keener becomes the sense of duty on the part of Government officials. This has been proved in a short time by the Delhi Darbar, the Universities Bill, the Official Secrets Bill, and also by the proposal to build the Victoria Memorial Hall. An additional proof is supplied by the agitation on the dismemberment question. You are so shameless that although you know all these things, you are crying loudly and shouting, "Here is a blind beggar asking for alms." This is altogether useless. If it is the will of the rulers to create a new province by erecting a wall through Bengal, this will surely be accomplished. A new Governor and new civilians will come and take up the work. You must sell your plough-cattle to provide their salary; sell your blankets, bedding, and water-pots to pay the taxes and exclaim, "O Lord, O Curzon, you are very intelligent; we are enjoying great happiness through your favour."

26. The *Suhrid* [Noakhali] of the 23rd March complains that the *mela* accounts have not yet been published. Certain persons charged with the distribution of prizes deprived some people of their prizes. But the injustice reached the ears of Maulvi Bazlal Rahim, Khan Bahadur, who gave away the prizes to the deserving persons.

SUHRID,  
March 23rd, 1904.

27. It is believed in many quarters, says the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March that Lord Curzon's unexpected visit to the Hindu temple at Kalighat, Calcutta, was occasioned by the rumour that the Hindus of Calcutta would, after holding the protest meeting in the Town Hall, repair to the temple to pray to the goddess Kali to save Bengal from the threatened partition. It is not known whether His Excellency made a vow to offer any sacrifice to the goddess for the success of his project. But it is not impossible for a man like Lord Curzon, who presented a mosque with a beautiful lantern for the purpose of pleasing the Musalmans, to show reverence to Hindu deities.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-  
ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
March 23rd, 1904.

28. The same paper is glad that Her Excellency Lady Curzon has safely given birth to a daughter. Respectable Indians distribute sweetmeats on such occasions. Cannot the Indian people therefore claim some gift from Lord Curzon for the happy birth of his daughter? And they will consider themselves highly gratified in this respect if His Excellency drops the proposal of the dismemberment of Bengal.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA,

29. The same paper writes as follows:—

The protest meeting at the Town Hall.

Thanks to the proposal to dismember Bengal, we are now fully convinced that national life is not yet totally extinct in this province. The testimony borne by the enthusiasm which marked the proceedings of the monster meeting in the Town Hall will remain recorded in ineffaceable characters in the political history of this province.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-  
ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,



Representatives of all sections of the people—Hindus, Musalmans, Brahmos, Christians, reises, raiyats, rich and poor, attended the meeting.

Will Lord Curzon regard this, too, as a spurious agitation? Man is liable to many errors and may be made to see his errors. But not so with wilful error. Lord Curzon now sees that it is not possible for him to hide the sun with his palm. He may indeed, if he likes, shut his eyes to the sun of truth and thus prevent himself from beholding its rays, but he cannot thereby prevent the world, too, from seeing that bright light. All the reasonings or unreasonings of Government will prove totally powerless to repress the stormy, tumultuous, and sobbing waves of national life that were witnessed in the Town Hall the other day.

We do not say that there were no students of colleges and schools in the Town Hall, but their number was very small. Aged and respectable people who never came to Calcutta before, came to it, on that occasion, from the far mufassal, to attend the meeting. Lord Curzon may make light of this large attendance, but every thoughtful and far-sighted statesman will see behind this popular demonstration a lively play of the forces of national life side by side with the authority of Government, that will admonish him to respect public opinion.

We have every hope that Lord Curzon will listen to this unanimous prayer of the people.

SANJIVANI.  
March 24th, 1904.

30. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 24th March writes that it is not in the power of Lord Curzon to dismember Bengal.

The transfer question. In his speech at Mymensingh His Excellency declared with a flourish of his stick that he could, with a single stroke of his pen, incorporate Dacca, Mymensingh, and Chittagong with Assam. Lord Curzon is close upon 50 years old, and yet he has not been able to shake off childish forwardness. He ought to have known that he cannot transfer East Bengal to Assam with a stroke of his pen. Under the Act passed in 1853, any territory under the jurisdiction of a Lieutenant-Governor cannot be transferred to a Chief Commissionership. He is perhaps ignorant of this law. The *Weekly Notes* has raised this point of law, and it has been supported by the well-known barrister, Mr. Hill. The opinion of eminent barristers in England should be taken on this question.

SANJIVANI,

31. The same paper has the following:—

The *Bengalee* on the Chief Secretary's visit to the *Sanjivani* office.

The *Bengalee* writes that there is a rumour in the town that Mr. Macpherson, Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, went to the office of the *Sanjivani* and tried to collect information about the agitation on the dismemberment question from the Editor. We are sorry at these remarks of the *Bengalee*. By publishing these remarks the paper has acted most unjustly. The Chief Secretary, Mr. Macpherson, is a perfect gentleman; a gentleman like him is seldom met with. He paid a visit to us and said that His Excellency the Viceroy and His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor had read the articles published in the *Sanjivani* on the transfer question, and that His Honour desired him to thank us, as he was particularly pleased with the articles. This incident shows nothing but the high-mindedness of His Honour and his Chief Secretary. There was, no doubt, a long conversation about the agitation on the dismemberment of Bengal with the Chief Secretary, but we must entirely deprecate the insinuation that he came to us for the purpose of worming out private information.

SOLTAN,  
March 25th, 1904

32. The *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says that East Bengal should on no account be severed from West Bengal. But

The proposed transfer. if the authorities are determined to take the calamitous step, Dacca should be made the capital of the new province. This would be the best of a bad bargain.

DACCA GAZETTE,  
March 28th, 1904.

33. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 28th March has the following in its English columns:—

The Calcutta Town Hall meeting.

The proposed partition of Bengal has evoked an expression of public opinion unprecedented in its volume and intensity in this part of the country. The public mind was no doubt exercised over this or that measure proposed by Government, but the oldest living man amongst us cannot call back to mind an agitation which could even approach



the present one. The popular views on the question of partition were focussed with unusual vigour and the unquestionable sincerity of conviction at the Town Hall meeting held in the afternoon of the 18th March. The Calcutta Town Hall has accommodated under its noble roof many public meetings held on important public occasions and under distinguished auspices. We know public meetings held there even under the august presidency of the Viceory, but never before was a spectacle presented there as on the last occasion. The upper floor of the spacious hall originally meant for the meeting, was found at once inadequate to accommodate the vast concourse of men that began to pour in in swarms from 1 o'clock in the day, though the meeting was timed at 5 P.M. Two simultaneous meetings were then held, one in the upper and one in the ground floor, every available inch was occupied and many had to go back from absolute want of room. The importance of the meeting was due not to its numerical strength alone, but the audience was singularly inspired by a strong sense of threatened wrong and a yet stronger sense of duty.

The proposal of this uncalled-for dismemberment of Bengal has so deeply stirred the public mind that for once even the titled gentry all over the country have felt bound to come out from their luxurious retirement to give vent to their feelings in no disguised language. It has been the creed of our peoples to curry favour with the powers that be even at a considerable cost, but the present has been an occasion when even the dead bones have found utterance, as it were.

Persons ever remarkable for the sobriety of their speech have been compelled by the very force of circumstances to use strong language. We confess that strong language has been used, but we are not sure that the occasion did not call for stronger language. Even Raja Peary Mohan Mukerjee, President of the Town Hall meeting, asserted that the nation declined to be captured by the transparent fallacy. The speeches of Messrs. Ghaznavi and C. R. Dass, the Maharaja of Natore, and the Hon'ble Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose, amongst others, ought to convince anybody that still wanted evidence of the genuineness of the agitation.

The Viceregal orations at Chittagong, Dacca, and Mymensingh were so unlike Lord Cruzon's that we were surprised by their utter and open disregard of public opinion, by the offensively supercilious tone that pervaded them, by the open demand of monopoly of all wisdom for the Viceregal circle, by the polemical temper of the speeches, so unworthy of a Viceroy. Occupying the singularly august position that His Excellency does, people expect the Viceroy to be far above the popular contest that disturbs the atmosphere below. We have a right to expect that the Viceroy should never enter the arena, but from his exalted seat should speak, when necessary, the language of wisdom, of peace, of contentment, of hope, and advice inspired by a sense of strong justice and deep sympathy for the people entrusted to his supreme care.

The Viceroy's inconsiderate utterances in East Bengal necessitated the meeting at the Calcutta Town Hall, and we believe the assembly did duly discharge the task on behalf of the people of Bengal, and we hope His Excellency will no longer delude himself with the belief that the agitation is after all a sham affair.

34. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 19th March bestows high eulogy upon Mr. Streatfeild, the District Magistrate of Barisal, for his love of justice, cheerful disposition, and sympathy with the people. He made satisfactory arrangements for the Entrance candidates at the Barisal centre, who were put to serious trouble by the arbitrary conduct of the Superintendent, Maulvi Abdul Salem. Officers unjustly treated by the District Superintendent of Police are now getting justice from the District Magistrate. The Magistrate fined a European, named Mr. Wetherell for beating his cook.

BARISAL HITAIISHI,  
March 19th, 1904.

35. The *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 23rd March says that Mr. Arnot, the Executive Engineer of the Nadia Rivers Division, makes his office clerks work extremely hard. He regularly holds his office

MURSHIDABAD  
HITAISHI,  
March 23rd, 1904.

Mr. Streatfeild, the District  
Magistrate of Barisal

The Executive Engineer of the  
Nadia Rivers Division



till 8-30 or 9 P.M. The hardship which is thus caused to the poor clerks is easily conceivable.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-  
ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
March 23rd, 1904.

36. It has been said in the official report on native-owned newspapers for the year 1902-1903, says the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March, that such papers sympathised with the Boers during the Boer war, but when peace was established all of them wrote articles in favour of the English. The gentleman who has written this report must be a man of biased ideas and one who is accustomed to write his review of newspapers without actually touching them.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA,  
March 23rd, 1904.

37. A correspondent of the same paper says:—

(1) If a person happens to lose his Postal Savings Bank pass-book he has to pay Re. 1 for a fresh book. This is a very hard rule. The price for a fresh pass-book ought not to be more than four annas.

(2) Formerly any sum up to Rs. 500 could be deposited in the Postal Savings Bank every year by one person. A few years ago this maximum was reduced to Rs. 200, but it should again be raised to Rs. 500. Middle class men who have daughters to marry soon will be greatly benefited by the proposed change.

(3) The interest allowed to depositors in the Savings Bank should be raised to its former rate, viz., Rs. 3-12 per cent. per annum.

SANJIVANI,  
March 24th, 1904.

38. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 24th March writes that Lord Curzon has decided to build the Victoria Memorial Hall on the site on which the Harinbari Jail now stands.

The jail buildings will be dismantled, and the cost of their reconstruction at Alipur will be not less than five or six lakhs of rupees, a heavy sum which the people of Bengal will be made to pay. What is even worse, the mischief does not end here. As the jail will be removed to Alipur, it has been found necessary to bring Alipur under the jurisdiction of the Original Side of the High Court. Consequently the Judge's Court and the Magistrate's Court at Alipur will have to be removed to another place, and the cost of removal will be not less than three or four lakhs of rupees. Thus, in proposing to build the Victoria Memorial Hall, Lord Curzon is going to waste eight or nine lakhs of the people's money. His Excellency is in the habit of rashly undertaking a task, the consequences of which the people have to suffer. A strong protest ought to be made against this.

SANJIVANI,

39. The same paper hears that Mr. Handley, first Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, will be appointed as a Judge of the High Court in the place of Mr. Justice Harington going home on leave.

A probable vacancy in the Small Cause Court, Calcutta.

Who is going to be appointed to fill up the resulting vacancy in the Small Cause Court? On a similar occasion in 1902, gradual promotion was given to the other Judges, and Babu Lalgopal Sen, Sub-Judge, was appointed as the fifth Judge. It is to be hoped that the same course will be followed on this occasion also, and that the same eminent officer, Babu Lalgopal Sen, will be appointed as the fifth Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court.

SANJIVANI,

40. The same paper is sorry to hear that a European barrister, Mr. J. G. Woodroffe, is to be appointed to the post shortly to be vacated by Mr. Justice Ameer Ali.

The successor of Mr. Justice Ameer Ali.

Such an appointment would be a grave injustice to the entire Muhammadan community of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa, as well as of Assam. Considering that learned barristers and vakils are not rare now-a-days among the Muhammadan community, a worthy successor to Mr. Justice Ameer Ali may easily be found. Maulvi Sayid Samsul Huda, Mr. Nural Huda, and Mr. Abdur Rahim, barrister-at-law, are all competent men. The last-named gentleman is now a Police Magistrate of Calcutta, and Government may appoint him, especially as Mr. Justice Ameer Ali, before he was appointed as a Judge of the High Court, held the post of a Police Magistrate of Calcutta.



41. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 25th March takes exception to the appointment of Mr. J. G. Woodroffe as an officiating Judge of the Calcutta High Court *vice* Mr. Justice Ameer Ali, and urges that the post should be given to a Musalman vakil. The Musalman community will be highly gratified if Maulavi Muhammad Yusuf, the well-known vakil of the High Court, is selected by Government to officiate for Mr. Justice Ameer Ali.

*MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR*,  
March 25th, 1904.

42. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 27th March is sorry that a European is going to officiate for Mr. Ameer Ali as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court. It was believed that a competent Musalman would be appointed in his place, and by appointing a European to that post the High Court has superseded the claims of many Hindu and Musalman members of the Calcutta Bar.

*HITAVARTA*,  
March 27th, 1904.

43. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 25th March writes as follows:—  
The authorities assert that because last year every department yielded a large revenue, the condition of the people of the country must be very prosperous. But we do not consider the amount of revenue realised as the test of the people's prosperity, because the authorities realise them with great rigidity even in times of famine. However that may be, we shall be glad to see the surplus applied to making a further reduction in the salt-tax and not wasted in the frontiers. The tax must be further reduced by at least one rupee per maund, in order to be at all appreciated by poor people who never buy more than one or two pice worth of salt at a time.

*DAILY HITAVADI*,  
March 25th, 1904.

44. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says that up to the year 1865 there were 8 copyists, 16 section-writers, and 1 senior copyist in the office of the Board of Revenue. In 1866 Mr. T. Jones abolished the posts of the section-writers and made them permanent copyists. So that in that year there were 24 copyists, besides 1 senior copyist, in that office. Since then 3 of them have been transferred to the Excise Commissioner's office, 2 to the Salt Rawana Department, 1 to the Old Record Department, 1 to the Sharistadar's Department, 1 to the Opium Sale Accounts Department, 2 to the two section routine branches, and 1 to the Stationery Accounts Department. There are, therefore, now only 13 copyists in the Board's office, besides the senior copyist whose duty is merely to supervise their work. In spite of this glaring fact, Mr. Wheeler informed the Bengal Government, in a letter dated the 1st July 1903, that there were 16 copyists in the office. Whence did he procure this information?

*HITAVADI*,  
March 25th, 1904.

If any letter happens to be a little delayed in copying, the Secretary and the Superintendent become fiery, and ascribe the delay to the laziness and perversity of the copyists. Unfortunately the Secretary finds no time and opportunity to inspect their work personally and see with his own eyes how every one of this handful of copyists performs the duties of two men. He remains satisfied with any story which Mr. Yakchee pleases to pour into his ears. The poor copyists work like machines and are rewarded with only hard and abusive words. Their broken tables, with no locks and having no *farash* to dust them, and the miserable condition of the stationery supplied to them, also bespeak the treatment which they receive at the hands of their superiors. They have even to pick up stones from streets to make paper-weights with for their office use. Such a state of things does not speak well for a big office like that of the Board of Revenue.

45. The same paper says that Government ought to train up a number of Indians of tried ability for the teaching staff of the Pusa Agricultural College, because Englishmen brought out from England will require a good deal of time to gain an adequate knowledge of Indian agriculture, however learned and experienced they may be in English agriculture. The authorities ought not, therefore, to incur the larger expenditure that would be necessary if teachers were to be imported from England for the College.

*HITAVADI*.



HITAVARTA.  
March 27th, 1904.

46. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 27th March says that a notice has been issued to all owners of elephants in the Jalpaiguri district that they should keep their animals in readiness for the immediate use of the Viceroy who is going there on a hunting excursion, but nothing has been said in the notice about the hire that should be paid on that account. His Excellency ought to be kind to the owners of the animals.

HITAVARTA.

47. The same paper is sorry that the Superintendent of the Government Stamps and Stationery office has fixed his office hours from 9 A.M., to 7 P.M., instead of from 10-30 A.M. to 5-30 P.M. In consequence of these long office hours many clerks have taken leave and some have applied for pension. The higher authorities ought to direct their attention to the matter.

CHARU MIHIR,  
March 22nd, 1904.

48. What is the good of opposing the proposal of Government, asks the *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 22nd March?

The Universities Bill.

All the educated men in the country condemned the Universities Bill, and all the elected members in the Legislative Council opposed it; yet the majority in the Council defeated all opposition. Such unequal contests should be avoided. Was there nothing in the 105 proposed amendments which could pierce through the solid square formed by the 17 members? Never will the people of this country forget the sad memory of Lord Curzon.

SANJIVANI,  
March 24th, 1904.

49. In an article headed "The Universities Bill has been passed—The burial of the University," the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 24th March writes as follows:—

The Universities Bill.

Last Monday the Universities Bill was passed. In vain did Mr. Gokhale, Dr. Asutosh, Nawab Sayid Muhammad, and Rai Bahadur Sriram try to oppose its passing. Lord Curzon and his associates have killed the University, which dies at the 47th year of its existence.

*What Mr. Pedler said.*

The discussions on the Universities Bill have thoroughly revealed the character of Mr. Pedler. In supporting the section in the Bill which provides that graduates guilty of heinous offences may be deprived of their degrees, Mr. Pedler said that he had seen a convict graduate in the Andamans. Again, when it was proposed that the Chancellor should select a certain number of Professors in the private colleges as Fellows, Mr. Pedler opposed the proposal and remarked that when he was Meteorological Reporter, a certain clerk of his, while daily attending office from 10-30 A.M. to 5 P.M., managed to pass the B. A. Examination by lecturing in some college; it was therefore difficult to say who was a Professor in a private college and who was not. From enquiry we have come to learn that Babu Sarat Chandra Ray Chaudhuri, Vakil, High Court, was at one time Mr. Pedler's clerk, and that he used to teach in the School Department of the Doveton College and appeared at the B. A. Examination as a schoolmaster. He was not a Professor in any College; yet Mr. Pedler made an unfounded statement before His Excellency the Viceroy and deluded the other members of the Legislative Council! We do not know who that convict graduate is whom Mr. Pedler saw in the Andamans. If he will mention his name we may be in a position to judge how far Mr. Pedler's statement may be relied upon.

Mr. Pedler waxed eloquent in crying down the Calcutta University. He said: "Have Indian graduates extended the bounds of knowledge, or have they made any original investigation?"

But big words such as these do not come well from the mouth of a man like Mr. Pedler; they ill become him who is ignorant even of the English alphabet; they do not hear well when uttered by a man who does not know the correct spelling of the word "accommodation." But, admitting that Bengali boys cannot make any original investigation, how many original investigations has Mr. Pedler made who was a Professor of Chemistry for 28 years and who boasts that he is a very great man because he is the Director of Public Instruction?



Mr. Pedler said that the only object of education in Bengal was to earn money. But for what has Mr. Pedler himself come here? Is he not selling education?

Mr. Gokhale plainly and fearlessly told Lord Curzon that Indians would be practically deprived of all powers in University matters by the proposed legislation, and that Englishmen who meant to stay in the country only for a short time ought not to be entrusted with the sole management of the Universities. Lord Curzon ought to know that Mr. Gokhale was born a Mahratta, and that therefore not all Lord Curzon's reproaches could daunt him. Whom need he fear in this world whose daily bread consists of a handful of *chana*? Lord Curzon was deeply offended at the remark that Englishmen had only a temporary interest in this country. His Excellency retorted: "Only temporary—yes, but there is many an Englishman who gives 35 years of the best of his life to this country, and who is willing to work himself even unto death for the sake of duty to an alien people. Are the Indians quite confident that there would be many of them willing in the converse case to do the same? I venture to think that, if there were set down in two tables the services that have been rendered to India by her temporary and her permanent friends, the former would not come so badly out of the comparison."

Many Englishmen no doubt pass the best part of their lives in India. May we enquire, is it for India's good or to secure a competency in life that they spend 35 years of their lives in this country? We wish to know whether it is for duty's sake or for the sake of their pay that they are prepared to remain here till the last moment of their lives. Lord Curzon asks if Indians can devote the best period of their lives for the good of persons who are not related to them. Certainly lakhs of Indians would be ready to do the same amount of good and under the same conditions to England, Canada or Australia as His Excellency and hundreds of Englishmen are doing to India. If, for instance, Mr. Gokhale were made Prime Minister of England or Governor-General of Canada, he would surely do a great deal of good to those countries. His Excellency has certainly gauged the ability of Mr. Gokhale and Dr. Asutosh, before whose genius all the members of the Legislative Council grew so pale. Give responsible offices to Indians, and it will be seen that they acquit themselves honourably.

Mr. Gokhale said that if University chairs, laboratories, and museums had to be provided, the money would have to be found by Government. Lord Curzon was much offended by this remark and said: "Exactly, but why? There is plenty of wealth among his own countrymen if they are willing to devote it to these objects." Lord Curzon has seen the Delhi Darbar, the wealth of the Maharaja of Benares, the jewels of Scindia, Jeypore, and the Nizam. Does he therefore conclude that Mr. Gokhale's countrymen possess enormous wealth? His Excellency is perhaps not aware that the Rajas are going to be reduced to penury in their eagerness to please the rulers.

50. A student correspondent of the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 25th March writes a poem under the heading "A

A poem.

Universities Bill," in which the *alma mater* is described as killed by the heartless destroyer of all things, the *yama*, and mourned over by Hindus and Musalmans alike.

51. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 25th March writes as follows:—

The Universities Act.

At last the Universities Bill has been passed into law in spite of all opposition. The authorities have maintained their *zid*. We do not deny that the working of the Indian Universities was faulty, but we regret that the new legislation will seriously retard its reform and circumscribe the sphere of education instead of enlarging it. What can be a matter of greater regret than that the existing evils will continue in spite of the change?

We congratulate the dissentient members of the Supreme Legislative Council on the strenuous opposition they offered to the passing of the Bill. There was a fruitless opposition, as it was bound to be, against the desires of a despotic government. Had not the University been the stepping-stone to almost all spheres of labour, such as the law, medicine, engineering, service, etc., the new legislation would not have concerned us much. It is not

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
March 25th, 1904.

HITAVADI,  
March 25th, 1904.



reformation but destruction which it will effect. We do not deny that we have been pleased with some of the provisions of the new law, but we shall first deal with the evils which it will create. A reconstitution of the Senate and the Syndicate on the lines marked out would greatly hamper the path of education. Scope for partiality decreases in proportion as the number of members vested with responsibility is increased. It is not possible for a committee of ten people to do an act of favouritism as easily as it is for one person. When worthless books like that of Sir William Lee-Warner have been made text-books even in these days, we shudder to imagine what the state of things will be when the number of senators will be reduced. The authorities preach reform, but they are extremely parsimonious in spending money necessary to secure it. Money will not surely flow in from all directions as soon as the Bill has been passed. The new law will do no good to the Indian Universities. Its object is to bring them completely under official control. An attempt has been made in it to maintain a standing official majority in the Senates. Such professors as have a very close touch with the Universities have been deprived of the privilege of being elected as senators.

HITAVADI,  
March 25th, 1904.

52. Referring to the stricture which was passed on the 19th March last by Lord Curzon on the non-official members of His Excellency's Council in regard to lengthy interpellations, the same paper writes as follows:—

It would not do for His Excellency to cite the procedure which is followed in Parliament, simply because it suits his purpose to do so in the particular matter in question. The example of that august body if followed here, should be followed in every branch of the Indian administration. In England public opinion has a great value of its own, and public agitation there is never laughed at as got-up agitation. What is not Mr. Chamberlain doing to get up an agitation on the tariff question? Can the authorities in England dismiss that agitation as spurious? If not, why did Lord Curzon take the Mymensingh Association to task for furthering the agitation against the proposed transfer? Where was his Parliamentary experience at that time? Such conduct does not speak well for a representative of the Sovereign.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
March 26th, 1904.

53. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th March writes:—

The Co-operative Credit Societies Act.

We cannot but thank the authorities for having passed the Co-operative Credit Societies Act. But we are grieved to find that the measure is not characterised by that generous spirit, the evidence of which the public had expected to see in it. Government, which knows how to divide a people, has been very careful to exclude the middle class people and the money-lending classes from the benefit of the proposed co-operative societies. No member will be allowed to deposit more than Rs. 250 in any bank, or to purchase shares representing more than a tenth of its capital. According to the authorities, the establishment of numerous small banks would be more desirable than that of one large bank. Government favours the establishment of similar societies for the artisans also. But the artisans of two or more villages will not be allowed to form co-operative societies like the agriculturists. The care which Government takes to prevent the union of the artisans of one village with those of another will not give satisfaction to anybody.

We do not know how far the other provisions of the Act will be acceptable to the public. No society will be permitted to make any loan without the sanction of Government, nor will Government help any society with more than two thousand rupees. If the funds of any society fall short of two thousand rupees, Government will help it with a sum equal to its existing capital. Government will have the power of attaching the funds of any society, though other creditors will not be allowed to do so. And there are very good reasons to fear that Collectors and other officers of Government will have power, though indirectly, to exercise their authority over the funds of these societies as well as on the societies themselves.

We are yet doubtful of the benefits this measure is likely to confer on the agricultural population of India. For, how can those cultivators become members of the proposed societies who are already involved in debt? How can other people be induced to carry on money transactions with them? When



similar societies were formed in Germany, Government made special arrangements to pay off the old debts of the cultivators. Does the Government of India propose to make any such arrangements? In the Act we do not find any provision for paying off the old debts of the cultivators. We fail therefore to understand of what benefit it can be to cultivators who are immersed in debt.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

54. The *Pratiya* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March publishes a cartoon in which a lion is represented as laying his fore-paws on the tusks of a boar. In the letter-press

PRATIYA,  
March 23rd, 1904.

A cartoon. the lion expresses his desire to humble and tyrannise over all other animals of the forest.

55. Referring to the impending departure of His Excellency the Viceroy from India, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th March writes:—

DAILY HITAVADI,  
March 26th, 1904.

Departure of Lord Curzon from India.

It may be that Lord Curzon's career in India will end with his departure for England. But we do not venture to hope for so much, as we are particularly unlucky. But if he should retire for good, India may be saved for the present. Lord Curzon is going home after increasing the trouble in the North-West Frontier, making war imminent in Tibet, disturbing Eastern India by his proposal to dismember Bengal, and putting the people in fetters by means of rigorous laws. We are afraid to think that he might do worse things if he should return, and therefore desire that he may not return. May he live long, may he be the Prime Minister of England; but we should be very happy if he should never come back to India.

Lord Elgin was gentle and quiet, like King Log in Æsop's fables. But Lord Curzon, like King Stork, has made the lives of the people miserable by his merciless pecking. There has been no end of his administrative acts, and the people have had no rest or relief. All his honeyed words have failed to please the people. He has preserved many ancient relics; pulled down many ancient edifices and reconstructed them; and pleased men's fancies by exhibiting elephant dances and by making princes dance. But whatever his real object, the people could not be won over.

It is a fact that we never saw such an active ruler. But his activity being mixed up with adverse qualities, alarmed rather than pleased the people. As on the one hand, the reduction of the salt duty and the raising of the taxable minimum of income gave rise to hopes, so on the other, the city improvement scheme and the Victoria Memorial project excited alarm. The desire to repress the turbulent European soldier is more than balanced by the undue preferential treatment of Eurasians. He honoured newspaper editors, but at the same time gained an unenviable notoriety by depriving them of their freedom. It is true he encouraged learning by reforming and reorganising the Imperial Library, but it is equally true that he laid the axe at the root of education by promulgating the new educational system and introducing changes in the University. For what merit of his, then, should the people love him?

Lord Curzon is a powerful man; but still he failed to make the people happy. When he first came to this country he raised great expectations in the minds of the people. But his arrogance, love of power, and thoughtlessness have disappointed all men. The Indian equally with the Anglo-Indian community has been displeased with him. Whatever fawning and hypocritical sycophants may say to the contrary, it is undeniable that such an unpopular Viceroy never came out to India. Whatever wily people may say to gain their object, an intelligent man like Lord Curzon certainly perceives the truth. He had given many hopes by his words, but in practice everything vanished like bubbles of water. All his proposals of reform ended in mere words. Where is he now and where are his reforms?

He had come to this country in a guise different from that in which he is now leaving it. We are happy that he is going, and our heart's desire will be fulfilled if he does not come back. If a man of his resources had been mindful of India's good, if he had taken a greater pride in alleviating the misery of the Indian people than in the gratification of his love of pomp and power,



then, to-day, where he is departing from these shores, thousands would have been bathed in tears and sung his praise. Indeed, the pang of separation would have been felt by the whole country. But instead of that we are cherishing the hope that he may not return. Was there ever a Viceroy who excited such universal dislike?

*Jyoti*,  
March 24th, 1904.

56. Referring to the passing of the Official Secrets Act the Universities Act, and a number of other measures of late years in the face of strong popular opposition, the *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 24th March writes as follows:—

The Government and public agitation.

The authorities do not now seem to think it necessary to consult native public opinion on any measure they undertake. In fact, steps are taken to carry out a proposal long before it is publicly announced. The publication of a proposed measure seems now to be made simply for the sake of formality. The question, therefore, for the people to decide is—What are they to do under the circumstances?

If our comments and criticisms and the expression of our independent views serve only to give more and more offence to our officials, who are possessed of uncontrolled power, who can say that what they may do in their anger will not be extremely harmful to us? To obviate, therefore, the probability of doing ourselves harm by our own acts, the only thing we can do is for the whole Indian population to take a solemn resolve to give up holding Congresses and other public meetings for the purpose of political agitation, and to desist from publicly criticising in newspapers any act of any official and not even to say anything regarding his kith and kin. The adoption of this course will save us from the anger of our rulers, while it will prevent the frittering away on fruitless objects of the money and energy of those of our countrymen who possess them, and will spare us much trouble and harassment.

*Dacca Prakash*,  
March 27th, 1904.

57. The *Dacca Prakash* [Dacca] of the 27th March has the following:—

The Government and public agitation.

If the way in which the Official Secrets Bill and the Indian Universities Bill have been passed into law be not sufficient to bring the Indian people to their senses, then it must be clear that their sense of right and wrong has taken leave of them. The sight which was witnessed in the Viceroy's Legislative Council on the occasion of the discussion of these two Bills was one the like of which was not known in the history of British rule in India. The whole Indian people, filled with alarm and anxiety at the prospect of the impending calamities, entered no end of protests against the action of the Government: like orphan children, they fixed their eyes at the feet of their masters and in a plaintive voice implored their pity. But did the supplications of millions and the piteous cries of tens of millions succeed in moving for a moment the heart of the wielder of the destinies of the Indian people? Such treatment of a vanquished people by their conquerors was never before witnessed in the civilised world. The Indians have been subject to British rule for about a century and-a-half, but during all this long period there never was an occasion when the whole Indian community was slighted, insulted and rebuked in the manner they were in connection with the passing of the above two measures. If after this, the people of India do not learn to guide themselves by their present circumstances, then kicks from booted feet will be their due and deserved reward.

We are far from blaming the Government. We take the reason of the slight to be the incompetency and worthlessness of the Indian people themselves. To our mind, it is quite beyond the sphere of a conquered people to raise a cry over either a right acquired or a right lost. Government's attitude has proved that the authorities, also, hold the same view. The Indians would not have had to go about as beggars to-day, if, instead of wasting their time and energy in criticising the measures of Government, they had devoted themselves to discovering the cause of India's misery. Can anybody say that the new measures which have been passed by the Government will have the effect of removing the Indians from the face of the earth? The truth is that the Indians will go on after the passing of the measures just as they have been before their passing. What have the Indians, whose bed is on the sea, to fear from dewdrops? But the Indians ought to take a lesson from the recent



occurrences and, instead of frittering away their energy in the discussion of Government's actions, devote themselves heart and soul to the real work of national improvement. Day by day, increasing poverty is plunging the country deeper and deeper into misery, and starvation is reducing the people to skeletons. If this state of things continues for a little longer and the improvement of manufacture and commerce do not bring in more money, there cannot be the least doubt that the Indians will cease to exist on the face of the earth. So long the Indians were under the belief that begging would enable them to recover their former happiness and prosperity. But have they gained anything by this belief? There is yet time for ye, brother Indians, to take a warning and remove the misery of your country by prudent conduct.

## URIYA PAPERS.

Cholera and small-pox in the Balasore district.

58. The *Sanvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 13th March states that cholera and small-pox are raging in the Balasore district.

SANVAD VAHIKA,  
March 17th, 1904.

59. The same paper as also its contemporary of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 19th March exhort their readers to contribute their mite towards the help of the wounded

UTKALDIPIKA,  
March 19th, 1904.

Help for Japan.

Japanese and the families of such of their numbers as have been killed.

60. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 23rd March regrets to note that the number of thefts and robberies is increasing in the Balasore town, and quotes instances in support of his statement.

Thefts and robberies in Balasore town.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD.  
March 23rd, 1904.

61. The same paper states that a man, named, Tur Jena, resident of Soro thana, in the Balasore district, was killed by a tiger in the last week.

A man killed by a tiger.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD.

Fever in Cuttack town.

62. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 19th March states that fever is prevalent in the Cuttack town and that several cases have ended fatally.

UTKALDIPIKA,  
March 19th, 1904.

63. The same paper regrets to note that an accident happened at the Tang station of the Orissa Branch of the Bengal Nagpur Railway, a few passengers being severely

A railway accident.

wounded on attempting to go out of their carriage while the train was in motion.

UTKALDIPIKA.

64. The same paper says that Kabiraj Balkrishna Das is in possession of a medicine, which has proved, in certain cases, an infallible cure for leprosy, and requests

A cure for leprosy.

the public to judge of the efficacy of the medicine by examination and experiment.

UTKALDIPIKA.

65. The same paper regrets to find that dacoities are on the increase in the Cuttack town and quotes an instance of such dacoity.

Dacoity in Cuttack town.

UTKALDIPIKA.

66. The same paper opposes the views of its contemporary of the *Uriya and Navasamvad* in favour of the proposed pilgrim tax, and observes that the public cannot tolerate the

UTKALDIPIKA.

revival of a tax both unjust and oppressive, which was wisely abolished by the British Government.

67. The same paper agrees with the views of Mr. Gupta regarding the introduction of moral and religious courses into the curriculum of studies pursued in the schools of the Orissa Tributary States, and says that as the

Religious teaching in the schools in the Orissa Tributary States.

policy of religious neutrality observed by the British Government in British India does not apply to those States, the schools in those States may have the benefit of religious and moral education from which the godless schools of British India are ever free.

UTKALDIPIKA.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 2nd April, 1904.

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